

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-30 and 36-38 are now pending in this application. In the September 26, 2008 Office Action, Claims 1-2, 4-6, 14-15, 18-19, and 29-30 (36 is included in text of rejection but not in the claim listing on p. 3) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,574,794 to Sarraf (hereinafter "*Sarraf*"). Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sarraf* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5, 870,406 to Ramesh et al (hereinafter "*Ramesh*"). Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sarraf* over U.S. Patent No. 6,157,812 to Sarraf (hereinafter "*Sarraf-2*"). Claims 10-13, 16-17, 20 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarraf in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No/ 2001/0012277 to Campanella (hereinafter "*Campanella*"). Claims 21-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sarraf* in view of *Campanella* further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,408,164 to Lazaris-Brunner et al (hereinafter "*Lazaris-Brunner*"). Claim 7 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 27-28 and 37 were allowed.

By this amendment, claims 2, 7, and 36-38 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 14, 15, 20, and 29 have been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter. Because the claim amendments incorporating allowable subject matter merely place the application in condition for allowance, the applicants respectfully request that the claim amendments be entered under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 (see also MPEP 714.12).

Following entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3-6, and 8-30 will be pending in the present application. For the reasons set forth below, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and immediate allowance of this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the September 16, 2008 Office Action, claim 7 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and claims 27-28 and 37 were allowed. In this regard, the applicants have cancelled claims 2 and 7 and have amended claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter in previous claim 7. Claim 1 now resembles previous

allowed claim 37, which is cancelled herein. Further, independent claims 14, 15, 20, and 29 have been amended to recite the allowable subject matter in previous claim 7. Accordingly, in view of the previous indication of allowability and the foregoing amendment, the applicants submit that independent claims 1, 14, 15, 20, and 29 and their corresponding dependent claims are in condition for immediate allowance.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 103(a)

The claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 103(a) are moot in light of the claim amendments incorporating allowable subject matter made herein..

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims in the present application are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application and allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicants' undersigned attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 17, 2008

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